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AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 1437d(j), 42 U.S.C. 3535(d).

SOURCE: 65 FR 1738, Jan. 11, 2000, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General Provisions**§ 902.1 Purpose and general description.**

(a) *Purpose.* The purpose of the Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS) is to improve the delivery of services in public housing and enhance trust in the public housing system among public housing agencies (PHAs), public housing residents, HUD and the general public by providing a management tool for effectively and fairly measuring the performance of a public housing agency in essential housing operations, including rewards for high performers and consequences for poor performers.

(b) *Responsible office for PHAS assessments.* The Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC) is responsible for assessing and scoring the performance of PHAs.

(c) *PHAS indicators of a PHA's performance.* REAC will assess and score a PHA's performance based on the following four indicators:

(1) PHAS Indicator #1—the physical condition of a PHA's properties (addressed in subpart B of this part);

(2) PHAS Indicator #2—the financial condition of a PHA (addressed in subpart C of this part);

(3) PHAS Indicator #3—the management operations of a PHA (addressed in subpart D of this part); and

(4) PHAS Indicator #4—the resident service and satisfaction feedback on a PHA's operations (addressed in subpart E of this part).

(d) *Assessment tools.* REAC will make use of uniform and objective protocols for the physical inspection of properties and the financial assessment of the PHA, and will gather relevant data from the PHA and the PHA's public housing residents to assess management operations and resident services and satisfaction, respectively. On the basis of this data, REAC will assess and score the results, advise PHAs of their scores and identify low scoring and failing PHAs so that these PHAs will receive the appropriate attention and assistance.

(e) *Limitation of change of PHA's fiscal year.* To allow for a period of consistent assessment of the PHAS indicators, a PHA is not permitted to change its fiscal year for the first three full fiscal

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years following October 1, 1998, unless such change is approved by HUD.

§ 902.3 Scope.

The PHAS is a strategic measure of a PHA's essential housing operations. The PHAS, however, does not evaluate a PHA's compliance with or response to every Department-wide or program specific requirement or objective. Although not specifically referenced in this part, PHAs remain responsible for complying with such requirements as fair housing and equal opportunity requirements, requirements under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and requirements of programs under which the PHA is receiving assistance. A PHA's adherence to these requirements will be monitored in accordance with the applicable program regulations and the PHA's Annual Contributions Contract (ACC).

§ 902.5 Applicability.

(a) *PHAs, RMCs, AMEs.* (1) *Scoring of RMCs and AMEs.* This part applies to PHAs, Resident Management Corporations (RMCs) and Alternate Management Entities (AMEs), as described in this section. As described in this section, this part is also applicable to RMCs that receive direct funding from HUD in accordance with section 20 of the 1937 Act (DF-RMCs).

(i) RMCs and DF-RMCs will be assessed and issued their own numeric scores under the PHAS based on the public housing developments or portions of public housing developments that they manage and the responsibilities they assume which can be scored under PHAS. References in this part to PHAs include RMCs and this part is applicable to RMCs unless stated otherwise. References in this part to RMCs include DF-RMCs and this part is applicable to DF-RMCs unless otherwise stated.

(ii) AMEs are not issued PHAS scores. The performance of the AME contributes to the PHAS score of the PHA or PHAs for which they assumed management responsibilities.

(2) *PHA ultimate responsible entity under ACC, except where DF-RMC as-*

sumes management operations. (i) Because the PHA and not the RMC/AME is ultimately responsible to HUD under the ACC, the PHAS score of a PHA will be based on all of the developments covered by the ACC, including those with management operations assumed by an RMC or AME (including a court ordered receivership agreement, if applicable).

(ii) A PHA's PHAS score will not be based on developments managed by a DF-RMC.

(b) *Implementation of PHAS.* The regulations in this part are applicable to PHAs with fiscal years ending on and after September 30, 1999.

(1) *PHAs with fiscal years ending September 30, 1999 or December 31, 1999.* For PHAs with fiscal years ending September 30, 1999, or December 31, 1999, HUD will not issue PHAS scores for the fiscal years ending on these dates. For these PHAs, in lieu of a PHAS score, HUD will issue the following:

(i) *PHAS Advisory Score.* A PHA with a fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, or December 31, 1999, will be issued a PHAS advisory score for PHAS Indicators #1 (Physical), #2 (Financial), and #4 (Resident Service and Satisfaction). The PHA must comply with the requirements of this part so that HUD may issue the advisory score. Physical inspections will be conducted using HUD uniform physical inspection protocol

(ii) *Management Assessment Score.* A PHA with a fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, or December 31, 1999, will receive an assessment score on the basis of HUD's assessment of the PHA's management operations in accordance with subpart D of this part.

(2) *PHAs with fiscal years ending after December 31, 1999.* PHAs with fiscal years ending after December 31, 1999, will be issued PHAS scores.

(c) *Chart on PHAS Advisory Score and PHAS Score Schedule.* The following chart illustrates when advisory scores will be issued and when PHAS scores will be issued and for which PHAS indicators.